

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 IO-10 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

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R 091139Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 09175

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION USMISSION USBERLIN 06 JUN 75,
REPEATED TO YOU FOR INFO:

REFTEL BEING POUCHED EUR/CE.

QUOTE:

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, US, UK, UR, FR

SUBJECT: ACA BUILDING

REF: USBER 666 AND PREVIOUS

1. THE FRENCH NOW HAVE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE FUTURE OF THE
ACA BUILDING AND SUBJECT WAS DISCUSSED AT JUNE 2 TRIPAR-
TITE MEETING. THE UK REP SAID HE HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS
(FURTHER TO THOSE REPORTED BONN 3067) BUT EXPRESSED HIS
PERSONAL VIEW THAT THE ATMOSPHERE HAD CHANGED SINCE
JANUARY AND ANY ACTION ON THE ACA BUILDING SHOULD BE
POSTPONED UNTIL THE RESULTS OF THE QUADRIPARTITE BREAK-
FAST PRESS RELEASE, NATO COMMUNIQUE, ETC., HAD BECOME
KNOWN. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THESE WERE PERSONAL VIEWS AND
THAT THE DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UK EMBASSY AND THE FCO
(SEE PARA 1, BONN 3067) REMAINS.

2. THE FRENCH REP SAID HIS INSTRUCTIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS.

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PARIS DOES NOT FAVOR ANY ATTEMPT TO DISPOSE OF THE ACA

BUILDING. TRANSFER TO SENAT OF THE BUILDING IN ITSELF
COULD ONLY BE SEEN AS A REDUCTION OF ALLIED PRESENCE IN
BERLIN WHICH WOULD NOT BE BALANCED BY ANY SOVIET REDUC-
TION. IF BASC WERE RELOCATED, THE SOVIETS COULD ARGUE
THAT PRACTICES WERE CHANGED AND COULD PUSH FOR OTHER
CHANGES NOT IN ALLIED INTEREST. THE FRENCH ALSO BELIEVE
THAT A MOVE WOULD CAUSE PSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEMS. IN SUM,
PARIS SEES MORE PROBLEMS IN TRYING TO MOVE THAN IN
REMAINING. THE FRENCH WOULD ALSO LIKE TO BE DOUBLY SURE
THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE NO LEGAL RIGHT WITH RESPECT TO THE
BUILDING. THE FRENCH REP SAID A USBER I.B. OF FEBRUARY 6
IMPLIES THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE NO SUCH RIGHTS BUT ALLIES
SHOULD BE SURE. IN ANY EVENT, THE FRENCH BELIEVE THAT
POLITICALLY THE SOVIETS HAVE A VOICE AND THE THREE ALLIES
WOULD THUS HAVE TO GO TO THE SOVIETS, PUTTING THEMSELVES
IN THE POSITION OF DEMANDEUR. THE SOVIETS WOULD
CERTAINLY MAKE OUT ANY POSITIVE RESPONSE TO BE A CONCES-
SION FOR WHICH THEY WOULD DEMAND, AT SOME POINT, A QUID.
THE FRENCH, CONSEQUENTLY, WOULD AGREE ONLY WITH GREAT
RELUCTANCE TO EVEN APPROACHING THE SENAT ABOUT POSSIBLE
LOCATION OF GERMAN OFFICES IN THE ACA BUILDING, WOULD
INSIST THAT BASC REMAIN THERE AND THAT A NUMBER OF ROOMS
FOR PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS AND POSSIBLE QUADRIPAR-
TITE MEETINGS BE APPROPRIATELY RESERVED AND MAINTAINED.
EVEN UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES THE FRENCH WOULD FORESEE
PROBLEMS. THEY DOUBT THAT SUCH ROOMS COULD BE RESERVED
INDEFINITELY, AND DOUBT IF THE BERLIN KAMMERGERICHT WOULD
BE HAPPY TO SHARE THE BUILDING WITH THE THREE ALLIES, LET
ALONE WITH THE THREE ALLIES AND THE SOVIETS. THE FRENCH
REP SUMMED UP, SAYING THAT WHILE THE FRENCH WERE NOT
PROPOSING TO FORMALLY VETO THE AMERICAN IDEA THEY WOULD
LIKE TO BE SURE THAT THE RISKS OF THE PROPOSAL ARE
CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD, SINCE IN THEIR VIEW IT HAS NO OBVIOUS
ADVANTAGES. THE FRENCH WOULD PREFER THAT THE U.S. IDEA
BE DROPPED. IN ANY EVENT, IN REFERENCE TO LACK OF UP-TO-
DATE UK INSTRUCTIONS, FRENCH REP SAID HE WOULD PREFER
DELAY OF ANY APPROACH TO THE SOVIETS ON POSSIBILITY OF
SENAT OFFICES IN BUILDING UNTIL A FINAL TRIPARTITE
POSITION CAN BE WORKED OUT. UK REP SAID HE WOULD SEEK
ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS.

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UNQUOTE
HILLENBRAND

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